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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Toru KIMURA, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HERewith

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP03/16091

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: December 16, 2003

FOR: LID APPARATUS AND VACUUM CONTAINER APPARATUS

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS
CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

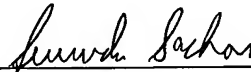
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report according to MPEP §609 and so indicate by a statement in the first Office Action that the information has been considered. When the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates both the search report and copies of the documents are present in the national stage file, there is no requirement for the applicant(s) to submit them (1156 O.G. 91 November 23, 1993).

Respectfully submitted,

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/16091

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ F16J13/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ F16J13/18, F16J13/20, F16F15/08, B01J3/03

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1922-1996	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2004
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2004	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
<u>X</u> <u>Y</u>	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 132156/1989 (Laid-open No. 69757/1991) (Kokusai Electric Co., Ltd.), 11 July, 1991 (11.07.91), Full text; all drawings (Family: none)	<u>1, 3, 4, 7</u> <u>2, 5, 6</u>
Y	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 145580/1982 (Laid-open No. 59568/1984) (Fujitsu Ltd.), 18 April, 1984 (18.04.84), Page 2, line 18 to page 3, line 3; all drawings (Family: none)	2

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
19 March, 2004 (19.03.04)Date of mailing of the international search report
13 April, 2004 (13.04.04)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/16091

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 2000-2281 A (Kinugawa Rubber Ind. Co., Ltd.), 07 January, 2000 (07.01.00), Par. No. [0002] (Family: none)	5
Y	FR 1324277 A (ROBERT MONTI), 06 July, 1963 (06.07.63), Full text; Fig. 1 (Family: none)	6